

## CLAIMS

We claim:

1 1. A method for providing information describing a file system connection between a local  
2 system and a host system, said method comprising:

3 encoding the information in a metalanguage format comprising one or more  
4 tags, each tag having an identifier and a set of one or more attributes, wherein the  
5 encoded information comprises a file system connection descriptor; and  
6 parsing the project topology descriptor according to the metalanguage tags.

Sub AI 7  
1 2. A data structure embodied in a computer-readable storage medium, said data structure  
2 representing information describing a file system connection between a local file system  
3 located on a local system and a host file system located on a host system, wherein said data  
4 structure comprises a file system connection descriptor, said file system connection descriptor  
5 comprising:

6 a local system data structure representing the local file system;  
7 a host system data structure representing the host file system; and  
8 a mapping data structure representing a mapping between the local file system  
9 and the host file system.

1 3. The file system connection descriptor of claim 2 wherein the mapping data structure  
2 comprises:

3 a local file extension data structure storing a local file extension;  
4 a host file pattern data structure storing a pattern describing a host file to which  
5 the local file extension will be applied; and  
6 a transfer type data structure storing a transfer type that defines how data will be  
7 transferred between the host system and the local system for this mapping.

1 4. The file system connection descriptor of claim 3 wherein the mapping data structure  
2 further comprises:

3 a host codepage data structure storing an identification of a host codepage in  
4 which data in the host file is encoded; and

5 a local-codepage data structure storing an identification of a local codepage in  
6 which data in a local file is encoded.

Sub A1 }  
2 5. The file system connection descriptor of claim 2 wherein the host system data structure  
comprises:

3 a data structure storing an identification of the host system;

4 a data structure storing an identification of a user of the host system;

5 a data structure storing an identification of a preferred drive on the local system;

6 and

7 a data structure storing an indication that the preferred drive be automatically  
8 connected by default when a remote connection is established with the host system.

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12 6. The file system connection descriptor of claim 2 wherein the host system data structure  
further comprises:

13 a data structure storing an identification of a list of qualifier data structures, wherein  
14 each qualifier data structure stores a qualifier name, a name identifying a directory on  
15 the host system, and an identification of file attributes of a file located in the host  
16 system directory.

17  
18 7. The file system connection descriptor of claim 2 encoded in a tagged metalanguage  
19 document comprising one or more tags, each tag having an identifier and a set of one or more  
20 attributes.

Sub<sup>1</sup>  
AI<sup>2</sup>

[illegible]